The Chief Justice of India vide his letter dated 3rd February, 2000 intimated (hat the full Court considered the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee contained in its 56th report for setting up Benches of the Supreme Court of India in Southern, Western and North-Eastern parts of the country and, after due deliberations, unanimously reiterated its earlier stand opposing the setting up of its Benches and Filling section outside Delhi.

The Cheif Justice of India, to whom the subsequent recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee contained in its 61st report was conveyed, has vide his letter dated 31 st October, 2000 conveyed that the matter has been directed to be placed before the Full Court.

Affiliation of Law Colleges

1690. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Bar Council of India has recently, refused affiliation to 15 law colleges in the country; and

(b) If so, what are the reasons for refusing their affiliation?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished from the Bar Council of India, the Council is not an affiliating authority and, therefore, question of refusal of affiliation to any law college does not arise. Under the Rules of the bar Council of India law colleges are to seek affiliation from the University concerned and apply to the bar Council of India for approval of such affiliation. This is a continuing process and the Council decides whether approval of affiliation can be granted or not on the basis of the inspection report submitted to it by the team appointed by the Council for this purpose and also on the recommendations of its Legal Education Committee. Reasons for refusing approval of affiliation to colleges vary from college to college. However, generally, the Bar Council of India does not grant approval of affiliation to those colleges which are totally lacking in infrastructural facilities, lack qualified teaching staff, have inadequate accommodation, pay poor salary to teaching staff, do not have a reasonably good library or do not fulfil other requirements as per the provisions of the Bar Council of India Rules.